

points of order against the amendments except for clauses 9 and 10 of rule XXI are waived. In the case of sundry amendments reported from the Committee, the question of their adoption shall be put to the House en gros and without division of the question.

The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. The rule provides that the Chair may entertain a motion that the committee rise only if offered by the chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or his designee. Finally, the rule provides that the chair may not entertain a motion to strike out the enacting words of the bill. Testimony was heard from Chairman Oberstar and Representatives Taylor, Scott of Virginia and LoBiondo.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Ordered reported, as amended, the following bills: H.R. 3791, Fire Grants Reauthorization Act of 2009; and H.R. 3820, Natural Hazards Risk Reduction Act of 2009.

#### BIOMASS ENERGY RESEARCH

*Committee on Science and Technology:* Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on Biomass for Thermal Energy and Electricity Through a Research and Development Portfolio for the Future. Testimony was heard from Scott M. Klara, Director, Strategic Center for Coal, National Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

#### SMALL BUSINESS FINANCIAL AND INVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

*Committee on Small Business:* Ordered reported H.R. 3854, Small Business Financing and Investment Act of 2009.

#### VETERANS MEASURES

*Committee on Veterans Affairs:* Subcommittee Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 761, amended, To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the eligibility of parents of certain deceased veterans for interment in national cemeteries; H.R. 3485, Veterans Pensions Protection Act.

#### BRIEFING—UPDATE COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS IN MEXICO

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Update on Counternarcotics Efforts in Mexico. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

#### PATRIOT ACT REAUTHORIZATION

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Patriot Act Reauthorization, Testimony was heard from David Kris, Assistant Attorney General, National Security, Department of Justice; Michael Leiter, Director, National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; and Robert Joyce, Associate Deputy Director, Counterterrorism, NSA, Department of Defense.

#### *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

#### NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D1186)

H.R. 1687, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at McKinley Avenue and Third Street, SW., Canton, Ohio, as the “Ralph Regula Federal Building and United States Courthouse”. Signed on October 19, 2009. (Public Law 111–74)

H.R. 2053, to designate the United States courthouse located at 525 Magoffin Avenue in El Paso, Texas, as the “Albert Armendariz, Sr., United States Courthouse”. Signed on October 19, 2009. (Public Law 111–75)

H.R. 2121, to provide for the transfer of certain Federal property to the Galveston Historical Foundation. Signed on October 19, 2009. (Public Law 111–76)

H.R. 2498, to designate the Federal building located at 844 North Rush Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the “William O. Lipinski Federal Building”. Signed on October 19, 2009. (Public Law 111–77)

H.R. 2913, to designate the United States courthouse located at 301 Simonton Street in Key West, Florida, as the “Sidney M. Aronovitz United States Courthouse”. Signed on October 19, 2009. (Public Law 111–78)

S. 1289, to improve title 18 of the United States Code. Signed on October 19, 2009. (Public Law 111–79)

H.R. 2997, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes. Signed on October 21, 2009. (Public Law 111–80)